

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 NIC-01 RSR-01 /131 W

----- 107769

R 010830Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7766

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 7706

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, US, UR

SUBJ: "SAME BED-DIFFERENT DREAMS" - CHOU COMMENTS ON US-SOVIET
DETENTE

REF: PEKING 0683

1. CHOU'S CONDEMNATION OF THE SUPERPOWERS IN HIS BANQUET SPEECH IN HONOR OF CONGO PRESIDENT N'GOUABI (REFTEL) WAS ONE OF HIS STRONGEST IN SOME TIME. IT WAS MUCH HARSHER, FOR EXAMPLE, THAN HIS SPEECHES DURING THE VISITS OF OTHER HEADS OF STATE THIS YEAR. AS USLO NOTED, CHOU INDIRECTLY BUT CLEARLY SINGLED OUT THE SOVIET UNION FOR SPECIFIC CRITICISM. NEVERTHELESS, HIS STRONG CONDEMNATION OF BOTH SUPERPOWERS CONTRASTS WITH CURRENT PEKING STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE DOWNPLAYED EVEN THE SECONDARY THREAT POSED BY US IMPERIALISM (HONG KONG 7070). PRESUMABLY CHOU'S WORDS WERE CHOSEN FOR THE EARS OF HIS RADICAL AFRICAN GUEST.

2. CHOU, HOWEVER, ALSO WISHED TO MAKE A POINT ABOUT THE NATURE OF
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US-SOVIET RELATIONS. AS USLO REPORTED, CHOU'S "ONE BED, TWO DREAMS"

ANALOGUE WAS THE FIRST VEILED COMMENT IN PEKING MEDIA ON CURRENT PROGRESS IN US-SOVIET DETENTE. THE PREMIER'S MAIN POINT APPEARED TO BE THAT BOTH THE US AND THE USSR WOULD STILL SEEK TO "OVERPOWER THE OTHER." IT IS, OF COURSE, AN IMPORTANT ASSUMPTION OF CHOU'S FOREIGN POLICY THAT THE US WILL IN FACT CONTINUE TO CONTEST THE EXPANSION OF SOVIET WORLD POWER. HOWEVER, AS USUAL IN A PUBLIC STATEMENT, CHOU GAVE NO HINT THAT US WILLINGNESS TO CONTEND WITH THE SOVIETS IS VIEWED BY CHINA AS A POSITIVE PHENOMENON.
DEAN

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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